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DATE: February 3, 2004

TO: Name: Examiner Peter Chin, USPTO  
Art Unit 1731

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Re: Serial No. 09/913,378 filed November 2, 2001  
Attorney's Docket: H 3954 PCT/US

- Response Under Rule 116 (5 pages)

Response under 37 CFR 1.116 RECEIVED  
Expedited Procedure CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
Examining Group 1731

FEB 03 2004

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appl. No. : 09/913,378  
Applicant : Baumoeller et al.  
Filed : November 2, 2001

TC/A.U. : 1731  
Examiner : Peter Chin

Docket No. : H 3954 PCT/US  
Customer No.: 23657

Confirmation No.: 9714

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**RESPONSE UNDER RULE 116**

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Commissioner for Patents  
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Sir:

This is in response to the Office Action dated December 8, 2003, in the above-identified application.

Remarks begin on page 2 of this paper.